



## **New Jersey Employers Add to Payrolls in March** *Unemployment Rate Holds Steady at 4.6 Percent*

TRENTON, April 19, 2018 – New Jersey’s payroll employment continued to advance in March, driven primarily by an increase of 4,200 jobs in the private sector. The state’s unemployment rate held steady at 4.6 percent, remaining above the national rate of 4.1 percent.

Total nonfarm wage and salary employment increased by 5,100 in March to reach a seasonally adjusted level of 4,180,300, according to preliminary estimates produced by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Based on more complete reporting from employers, previously released total nonfarm employment estimates for February were revised lower by 2,800 jobs to show an over-the-month (January-February) increase of 13,000 jobs. The state’s revised February unemployment rate was unchanged at 4.6 percent.

Looking at the longer-term, over the year March 2017-March 2018, employment in New Jersey was higher by 67,100, with the majority of the gains recorded by private sector employers (+65,100). Since February 2010 – the low point of the last recession – New Jersey’s private sector employers have added 373,600 jobs.

In March, employment increases were recorded in four out of nine major private industry sectors. Industry sectors which recorded job gains over the month include leisure and hospitality (+3,800), professional and business services (+2,100), manufacturing (+1,200), and trade, transportation, and utilities (+1,100). Job losses were recorded in construction (-1,400), other services (-1,200), education and health services (-1,000), information (-200), and financial activities (-200). Over the month, public sector employment was higher by 900 jobs, with most of the gains at the state level (+700).

Preliminary BLS data for April 2018 will be released on May 17, 2018.

**Technical Notes:** Estimates of industry employment and unemployment levels are arrived at through the use of two different monthly surveys.

Industry employment data are derived through the Current Employment Statistics (CES) survey, a monthly survey of approximately 4,000 business establishments conducted by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) of the U.S. Department of Labor, which provides estimates of employment, hours, and earnings data broken down by industry for the nation as a whole, all states and most major metropolitan areas (often referred to as the “establishment” survey).

Resident employment and unemployment data are mainly derived from the New Jersey portion of the national Current Population Survey (CPS), a household survey conducted each month by the U.S. Census Bureau under contract with BLS, which provides input to the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program (often referred to as the “household” survey).

Both industry and household estimates are revised each month based on additional information from updated survey reports compiled by the BLS. In addition, these estimates are benchmarked (revised) annually based on actual counts from New Jersey’s Unemployment Compensation Law administrative records and more complete data from all New Jersey employers.

Effective with the release of January 2018 estimates, the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program has converted to concurrent seasonal adjustment, which uses all available estimates, including those for the current month, in developing seasonal factors. Previously, the CES program developed seasonal factors once a year during the annual benchmark process. For more information on concurrent seasonal adjustment in the CES State and Area program, see [www.bls.gov/sae/saeconcurrent.htm](http://www.bls.gov/sae/saeconcurrent.htm).

**Table 1: Major Indicators of Labor Market Activity for New Jersey**  
**Seasonally Adjusted**  
**2017 Benchmark**

<b>Labor Force Data (resident)</b>					
	<b>Current Month</b>	<b>Previous Month</b>	<b>One Year Ago</b>	<b>Net Change</b>	<b>Net Change</b>
	<b>Mar. 18 (P)</b>	<b>Feb. 18 (R)</b>	<b>Mar. 17</b>	<b>over the Month</b>	<b>over the Year</b>
Civilian Labor Force	4,499,900	4,506,800	4,522,100	-6,900	-22,200
Employment	4,292,800	4,297,400	4,318,200	-4,600	-25,400
Unemployment	207,100	209,500	203,900	-2,400	3,200
Unemployment Rate	4.6	4.6	4.5	0.0	0.1
<b>Employment Data (establishment)</b>					
	<b>Current Month</b>	<b>Previous Month</b>	<b>One Year Ago</b>	<b>Net Change</b>	<b>Net Change</b>
	<b>Mar. 18 (P)</b>	<b>Feb. 18 (R)</b>	<b>Mar. 17</b>	<b>over the Month</b>	<b>over the Year</b>
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	4,180,300	4,175,200	4,113,200	5,100	67,100
<b>Total Private Sector</b>	3,564,400	3,560,200	3,499,300	4,200	65,100
<b>Goods Producing</b>	405,000	405,200	400,600	-200	4,400
Mining and Logging	1,300	1,300	1,400	0	-100
Construction	154,100	155,500	155,900	-1,400	-1,800
Manufacturing	249,600	248,400	243,300	1,200	6,300
<b>Service-Providing</b>	3,775,300	3,770,000	3,712,600	5,300	62,700
<b>Private Service-Providing</b>	3,159,400	3,155,000	3,098,700	4,400	60,700
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	902,700	901,600	878,500	1,100	24,200
Information	70,400	70,600	71,800	-200	-1,400
Financial Activities	247,300	247,500	248,700	-200	-1,400
Professional and Business Services	678,400	676,300	666,000	2,100	12,400
Education and Health Services	707,000	708,000	688,400	-1,000	18,600
Leisure and Hospitality	380,600	376,800	373,300	3,800	7,300
Other Services	173,000	174,200	172,000	-1,200	1,000
<b>Public Sector</b>	615,900	615,000	613,900	900	2,000
<b>3-Month Average Change</b>					
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	11,200	8,200	3,300	N/A	N/A
<b>Private Sector</b>	10,500	8,300	3,100	N/A	N/A
<b>Weekly Hours of Work (not seasonally adjusted)*</b>					
Manufacturing	39.4	40.3	37.7	-0.9	1.7
Durable Goods	39.1	39.6	37.6	-0.5	1.5
Nondurable Goods	39.7	40.9	37.7	-1.2	2.0
<b>Hourly Earnings (not seasonally adjusted)*</b>					
Manufacturing	\$21.77	\$21.44	\$21.98	\$0.33	-\$0.21
Durable Goods	\$25.82	\$25.32	\$25.66	\$0.50	\$0.16
Nondurable Goods	\$18.65	\$18.50	\$19.02	\$0.15	-\$0.37
<b>Weekly Earnings (not seasonally adjusted)**</b>					
Manufacturing	\$857.74	\$864.03	\$828.65	-\$6.29	\$29.09
Durable Goods	\$1,009.56	\$1,002.67	\$964.82	\$6.89	\$44.74
Nondurable Goods	\$740.41	\$756.65	\$717.05	-\$16.24	\$23.36

April 19, 2018. P - preliminary, R-revised.

\* Production workers.

\*\* Weekly earnings are computed from not seasonally adjusted hourly earnings and hours of work data.

Source: New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Economic and Demographic Research.

Table 2: New Jersey Civilian Labor Force Trends						
2017 Benchmark						
	Not Seasonally Adjusted			Seasonally Adjusted		
	Mar. 18 (P)	Feb. 18 (R)	Mar. 17	Mar. 18 (P)	Feb. 18 (R)	Mar. 17
Civilian Labor Force	4,470,200	4,499,500	4,515,800	4,499,900	4,506,800	4,522,100
Resident Employment	4,261,100	4,280,000	4,309,200	4,292,800	4,297,400	4,318,200
Unemployment	209,100	219,400	206,600	207,100	209,500	203,900
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.7	4.9	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.5
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	62.2	62.7	63.2	62.6	62.8	63.3
Employment/Population Ratio (%)	59.3	59.6	60.3	59.8	59.8	60.4
New Jersey Civilian Labor Force Annual Averages 1997 - 2017						
Year	Labor Force		Employment	Unemployment	Rate (%)	
1997	4,263,800		4,039,800	224,000	5.3	
1998	4,246,400		4,051,500	194,900	4.6	
1999	4,287,900		4,094,600	193,300	4.5	
2000	4,282,100		4,123,700	158,400	3.7	
2001	4,288,800		4,106,200	182,600	4.3	
2002	4,346,200		4,095,200	251,100	5.8	
2003	4,347,200		4,093,700	253,500	5.8	
2004	4,349,200		4,138,800	210,300	4.8	
2005	4,391,600		4,194,900	196,700	4.5	
2006	4,445,900		4,236,500	209,400	4.7	
2007	4,441,800		4,251,800	190,000	4.3	
2008	4,504,400		4,264,000	240,500	5.3	
2009	4,550,600		4,138,600	412,100	9.1	
2010	4,555,300		4,121,500	433,900	9.5	
2011	4,565,300		4,138,500	426,800	9.3	
2012	4,588,000		4,160,000	428,000	9.3	
2013	4,548,600		4,173,800	374,700	8.2	
2014	4,527,200		4,221,300	305,900	6.8	
2015	4,537,200		4,274,700	262,500	5.8	
2016	4,530,800		4,305,500	225,300	5.0	
2017	4,518,800		4,309,700	209,100	4.6	
Seasonally Adjusted Civilian Labor Force Data for New Jersey 2017-2018						
Date	Labor Force		Employment	Unemployment	Rate %	
Jan 2017	4,524,900		4,315,000	209,900	4.6	
Feb	4,523,400		4,317,100	206,300	4.6	
Mar	4,522,100		4,318,200	203,900	4.5	
Apr	4,521,200		4,318,000	203,100	4.5	
May	4,520,800		4,317,000	203,900	4.5	
Jun	4,521,200		4,315,200	206,000	4.6	
Jul	4,521,400		4,312,400	209,000	4.6	
Aug	4,520,100		4,308,400	211,800	4.7	
Sep	4,518,100		4,304,600	213,600	4.7	
Oct	4,515,400		4,301,100	214,300	4.7	
Nov	4,513,900		4,300,000	213,900	4.7	
Dec	4,513,700		4,300,200	213,500	4.7	
Jan 2018	4,508,700		4,296,900	211,800	4.7	
Feb (R)	4,506,800		4,297,400	209,500	4.6	
Mar (P)	4,499,900		4,292,800	207,100	4.6	
Apr						
May						
Jun						
Jul						
Aug						
Sep						
Oct						
Nov						
Dec						

Source: New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Economic & Demographic Research.

April 19, 2018. P - preliminary, R-revised.

Table 3: New Jersey Nonfarm Employment by Industry for March 2018 Not Seasonally Adjusted, 2017 Benchmark				
Industry	Current Month Mar. 18 (P)	Previous Month Feb. 18 (R)	One Year Ago Mar. 17	Net Change over the Year
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	<b>4,123,500</b>	<b>4,095,400</b>	<b>4,059,300</b>	<b>64,200</b>
Total Private Sector	3,495,300	3,470,200	3,433,100	62,200
Goods Producing	394,200	392,100	389,700	4,500
<b>Mining &amp; Logging</b>	<b>1,300</b>	<b>1,200</b>	<b>1,300</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>144,200</b>	<b>144,300</b>	<b>146,600</b>	<b>-2,400</b>
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>248,700</b>	<b>246,600</b>	<b>241,800</b>	<b>6,900</b>
Durable Goods*	115,100	114,200	109,700	5,400
Fabricated Metal Products	21,000	20,900	20,900	100
Machinery Manufacturing	13,700	13,600	13,500	200
Computer and Electronic Products	23,700	23,700	22,900	800
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	17,400	17,400	17,200	200
Nondurable Goods*	133,600	132,400	132,100	1,500
Food Manufacturing	35,400	35,400	34,600	800
Paper Manufacturing	9,600	9,600	9,800	-200
Printing and Related Support	13,900	13,800	13,900	0
Chemical Manufacturing	43,900	43,600	43,500	400
Pharmaceutical and Medicine	22,700	22,600	22,400	300
Service-Providing	3,729,300	3,703,300	3,669,600	59,700
Private Service-Providing	3,101,100	3,078,100	3,043,400	57,700
<b>Trade, Transportation, and Utilities</b>	<b>890,000</b>	<b>886,600</b>	<b>862,600</b>	<b>27,400</b>
Wholesale Trade*	220,700	219,200	216,000	4,700
Retail Trade*	454,500	454,200	450,700	3,800
Building Material & Garden Equip. and Supplies Dealers	33,900	32,500	31,600	2,300
Food and Beverage Stores	109,800	110,000	110,800	-1,000
Health and Personal Care Stores	36,100	35,400	37,900	-1,800
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	48,400	49,200	48,600	-200
Sporting Goods, Hobby, Musical Inst., and Book Stores	13,900	14,000	14,600	-700
General Merchandise Stores	70,600	71,200	71,900	-1,300
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	214,800	213,200	195,900	18,900
Utilities*	14,100	14,100	14,000	100
Transportation & Warehousing*	200,700	199,100	181,900	18,800
<b>Information</b>	<b>70,200</b>	<b>70,100</b>	<b>71,400</b>	<b>-1,200</b>
Publishing Industries (except Internet)	17,200	17,200	18,100	-900
Telecommunications	25,800	25,800	27,000	-1,200
Data Processing, Hosting, and Related Services	10,000	9,900	9,900	100
<b>Financial Activities</b>	<b>245,500</b>	<b>245,400</b>	<b>246,800</b>	<b>-1,300</b>
Finance and Insurance*	189,000	189,000	189,800	-800
Financial Investments and Related Activities	38,100	37,900	39,600	-1,500
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	79,000	79,000	79,200	-200
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing*	56,500	56,400	57,000	-500
<b>Professional and Business Services</b>	<b>662,700</b>	<b>654,000</b>	<b>652,700</b>	<b>10,000</b>
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services*	297,700	296,700	298,200	-500
Management of Companies and Enterprises*	81,300	81,500	83,300	-2,000
Administrative Support & Waste Management/Remediation*	283,700	275,800	271,200	12,500
<b>Education and Health Services</b>	<b>711,200</b>	<b>709,700</b>	<b>692,500</b>	<b>18,700</b>
Educational Services*	118,100	116,700	112,200	5,900
Health Care and Social Assistance*	593,100	593,000	580,300	12,800
Hospitals	162,400	163,100	160,400	2,000
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	95,700	95,800	95,700	0
Social Assistance	95,400	94,800	92,100	3,300
<b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>	<b>350,500</b>	<b>341,000</b>	<b>347,600</b>	<b>2,900</b>
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation*	55,000	51,500	53,400	1,600
Accommodation and Food Services*	295,500	289,500	294,200	1,300
Food Services and Drinking Places	250,700	246,000	249,600	1,100
<b>Other Services</b>	<b>171,000</b>	<b>171,300</b>	<b>169,800</b>	<b>1,200</b>
Repair and Maintenance	31,500	31,900	33,100	-1,600
Personal and Laundry Services	62,500	61,600	59,900	2,600
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional and Similar Org.	77,000	77,800	76,800	200
<b>Government</b>	<b>628,200</b>	<b>625,200</b>	<b>626,200</b>	<b>2,000</b>

April 19, 2018 P - preliminary, R-revised. Shaded rows denote supersector series, \* denote sector series.

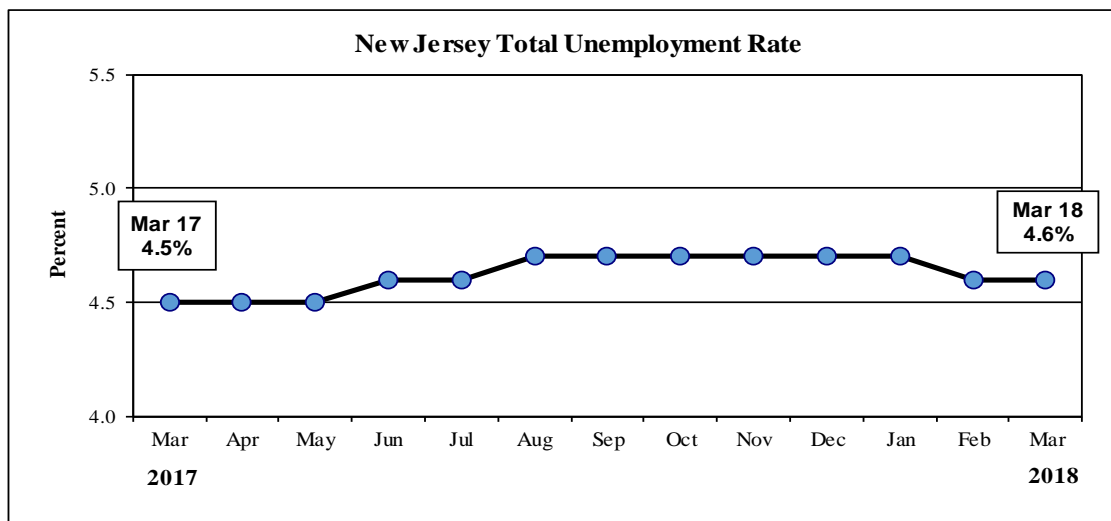
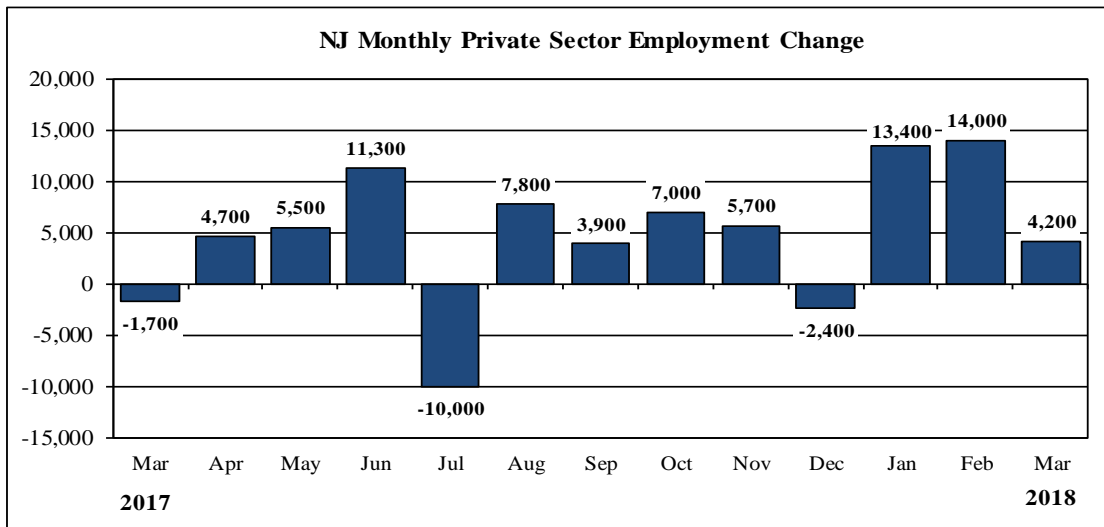
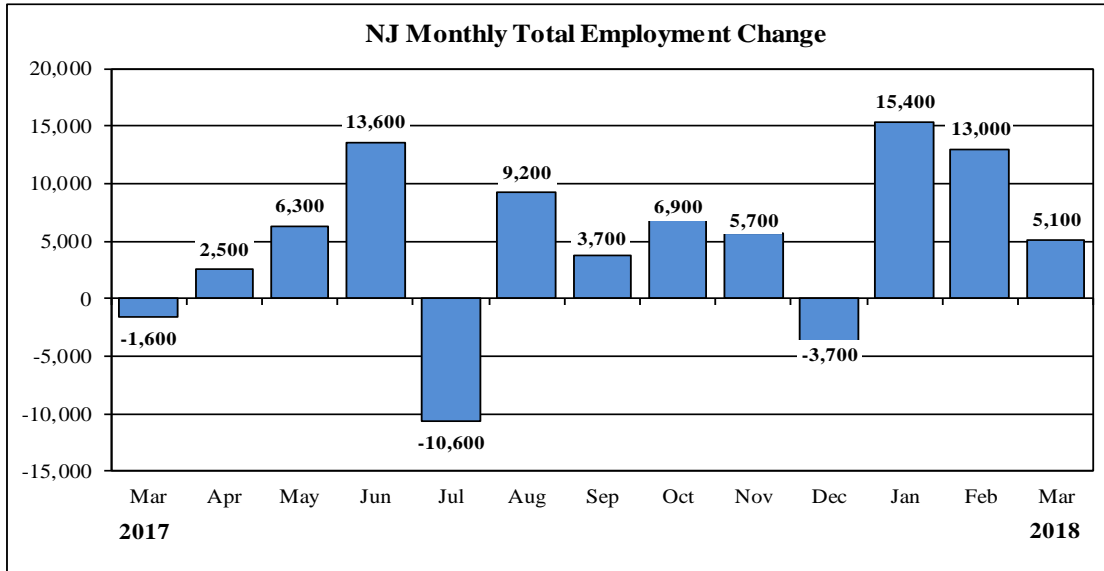
Source: New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Economic and Demographic Research.

<b>Table 4: New Jersey Nonfarm Employment 2017 Benchmark</b>						
<b>Annual Averages</b>						
	<b>Total</b>	<b>Private Sector</b>				<b>Public</b>
<b>Year</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>Construction</b>	<b>Service-Providing</b>	
1997	3,719,800	3,148,900	427,800	131,800	2,587,100	571,000
1998	3,801,300	3,228,900	427,300	136,100	2,663,200	572,400
1999	3,901,200	3,322,600	420,500	143,600	2,756,300	578,600
2000	3,994,600	3,404,600	419,600	149,600	2,833,400	590,100
2001	3,996,900	3,392,800	399,100	158,800	2,833,200	604,100
2002	3,983,700	3,368,300	365,100	162,600	2,839,100	615,300
2003	3,977,200	3,353,300	348,000	160,500	2,843,300	623,900
2004	3,997,900	3,362,400	335,700	165,900	2,859,200	635,600
2005	4,038,400	3,394,600	327,800	169,100	2,896,000	643,800
2006	4,069,700	3,420,100	321,100	174,900	2,922,400	649,600
2007	4,077,200	3,427,100	308,400	172,300	2,944,800	650,100
2008	4,048,500	3,396,900	295,400	164,500	2,935,300	651,600
2009	3,894,200	3,239,200	260,900	138,600	2,838,300	655,000
2010	3,848,700	3,206,000	252,100	129,500	2,823,000	642,700
2011	3,847,700	3,226,000	246,900	129,900	2,847,900	621,700
2012	3,890,700	3,271,700	240,900	130,400	2,899,100	619,000
2013	3,935,400	3,316,900	238,700	137,600	2,939,300	618,400
2014	3,967,900	3,347,900	238,800	141,600	2,966,100	620,100
2015	4,012,600	3,397,800	238,800	148,400	3,009,200	614,900
2016	4,073,500	3,459,400	242,100	153,500	3,062,500	614,100
2017	4,127,400	3,512,600	244,600	155,000	3,111,700	614,900
<b>Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data</b>						
<b>2017</b>						
Jan	4,109,100	3,495,000	243,400	154,900	3,095,400	614,100
Feb	4,114,800	3,501,000	243,800	157,000	3,098,900	613,800
Mar	4,113,200	3,499,300	243,300	155,900	3,098,700	613,900
Apr	4,115,700	3,504,000	243,700	155,400	3,103,600	611,700
May	4,122,000	3,509,500	244,400	155,600	3,108,200	612,500
Jun	4,135,600	3,520,800	244,800	156,000	3,118,700	614,800
Jul	4,125,000	3,510,800	245,400	155,100	3,109,000	614,200
Aug	4,134,200	3,518,600	245,200	155,800	3,116,300	615,600
Sep	4,137,900	3,522,500	245,200	156,600	3,119,300	615,400
Oct	4,144,800	3,529,500	245,300	153,100	3,129,700	615,300
Nov	4,150,500	3,535,200	244,900	153,300	3,135,600	615,300
Dec	4,146,800	3,532,800	246,500	151,500	3,133,500	614,000
<b>2018</b>						
Jan	4,162,200	3,546,200	246,700	153,700	3,144,500	616,000
Feb (R)	4,175,200	3,560,200	248,400	155,500	3,155,000	615,000
Mar (P)	4,180,300	3,564,400	249,600	154,100	3,159,400	615,900
Apr						
May						
Jun						
Jul						
Aug						
Sep						
Oct						
Nov						
Dec						

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Source: New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Economic & Demographic Research.

**Key Economic Indicators: March 2018**  
(Seasonally Adjusted)



April 19, 2018

Source: New Jersey Dept. of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Economic and Demographic Research.